bar **35** or **135** can also be equipped with a spring mechanism **61** for further facilitating movement between the two portions.

Although preferably pads **40** are extended and retracted in a push-button-like or similar manner, pads **40** can be engaged and retracted in a variety of different ways, e.g., pads **40** can be screwably adjustable or the pads **40** can be flipped into position. Even though the various figures show locking bar **22** and receiving channel **23** disposed along the top side **30**, **32** of the respective portions **12**, **14**, in some cases it may be preferable to have the locking members **22** and receiving channels **23** located on the bottom sides **31**, **33** of the portions **12**, **14** or perhaps along the sides of each respective portion **12**, **14**.

In another embodiment of the present invention, it may be desirable to have a second locking mechanism for securing the keyboard **10** when in portable configuration. Or, perhaps have a mutual locking member which secures the keyboard when disposed in either configuration. In some cases it may also be desirable to construct the keyboard so that one or both of the portions **12**, **14** has a place for storing the cord **53** for the keyboard such as a receiving channel **55** located on one of the sides of portions **12**, **14**.

In another case it may be desirable to provide a memory device **51** such as a computer or microprocessor for storing personal indicia within the keyboard **10** which will enable the keyboard **10** to interact with a host computer and may, in some cases, be used as a secondary security mechanism for owners of the keyboard. For example, a person's name, address, telephone number, etc., could easily be stored in the computer's memory of the keyboard **10**. In addition, personalized macros could be stored in the computer memory as well which, as can be appreciated from the present disclosure, would enable a user to log onto any computer and have their own personal information, programs and macros readily available for use. This is especially advantageous and cost effective for larger offices since many different people could utilize the same computer at different time intervals without reprogramming the computers for personal preferences.

Keyboard **10** could be equipped with a password control mechanism which would permit only the owner to use the keyboard. Or, perhaps, the keyboard could be equipped with other computer features which would monitor the time, location and accessibility of certain files by the user. Moreover, a keyboard (rather than a computer) could be given to an employee and equipped so as to only be able to interact with certain files and deny access to other restricted files from any location within the office environment. As can be appreciated from the present disclosure, this would provide additional security and monitoring measures for an employer with or without the employee knowing that the these measures were in place.

Accordingly, while several embodiments of the present invention have been illustrated in the appended drawings, it is to be understood that various modifications may be made as will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

What is claimed is:

1. A keyboard, comprising:

a first portion and a second portion, each of said portions comprising a plurality of keys located thereon;

means for mounting said first portion and said second portion for rotation about an axis which passed through both of said first and second portions between a first position and at least one second position;

whereas when said keyboard is disposed in said first position said keys of said first portion and said keys of said second portion are aligned for typing; and

whereas when said keyboard is disposed in said second position at least one of said portions is selectively receivable within the other of said portions.

2. The keyboard according to claim **1**, further comprising means for locking said keyboard in said first position.

3. The keyboard according to claim **1**, further comprising means for locking said keyboard in said first position and said second position.

4. The keyboard according to claim **1** wherein at least one of said portions further comprises a top side and a bottom side and wherein one of said sides acts as a protective cover for protecting said keys when said keyboard is engaged in said second position.

5. The keyboard according to claim **1**, wherein said keyboard further comprises an electrical cord and one of said portions comprises a storage channel for housing said cord.

6. The keyboard according to claim **1**, wherein said keyboard further comprises means for guiding said keyboard from said first position to said second position.

7. The keyboard according to claim **1**, wherein said keyboard further comprises a spring means for assisting and facilitating movement between said first position and said second position.

8. The keyboard according to claim **1**, wherein one of said portions is telescopically receivable within the other of said portions.

9. A keyboard, comprising:

a first portion and a second portion, each of said portions comprising a plurality of keys located on a first side and a protective cover located on a second side;

means for mounting said first portion and said second portion for rotation about an axis which passes through both of said first and second portions between a first position and at least one second position;

whereas when said keyboard is oriented in said first position said keys of said first portion and said keys of said second portion are aligned for typing and said protective covers of said first portion and said second portion are also aligned; and

whereas when said first and second portions are rotated to said at least one second position said first portion selectively engages said second portion such that said protective cover of said first portion harbors and protects said keys of said second portion and said protective cover of said second portion harbors and protects said keys of said first portion.

10. The keyboard according to claim **9**, further comprising means for locking said keyboard in said first position.

11. The keyboard according to claim **9**, further comprising means for locking said keyboard in said first position and said second position.

12. The keyboard according to claim **9**, wherein said keyboard further comprises a cord and one of said portions comprises a storage channel for housing said cord.

13. The keyboard according to claim **9**, wherein said keyboard further comprises means for guiding said keyboard from said first position to said second position.

14. The keyboard according to claim **9**, wherein said keyboard further comprises a spring means for assisting and facilitating movement between said first position and said second position.

15. The keyboard according to claim **9**, wherein said keyboard further comprises means for storing personal indicia therein.

16. The keyboard according to claim **15**, wherein said storing means are electronic.